

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A plurality of sheets stacked on a lifting plate are fed to a separator plate and separated so that only a single sheet will be transported with the rotation of a feed roller. The single sheet is transported downstream in a sheet feeding direction. When the single sheet has been transported to a target position reaching a transport roller and a pinch roller, a sheet aligning/pressing portion and a separator plate pressing portion displace the remaining sheets in a direction away from the feed roller. This causes an abutting portion to move away from the feed roller, and prevent the remaining sheets from moving downstream in the sheet feeding direction.